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PATENT  
09/972,383



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Sanjay (nmi) Kumar, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/972,383  
Date Filed: October 4, 2001  
Title: FULFILLMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR MANAGING  
ATP DATA IN A DISTRIBUTED SUPPLY CHAIN  
ENVIRONMENT

ATTENTION: OFFICIAL DRAFTSMAN  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify that the attached Preliminary Amendment (4 pages) and Substitute Declaration and Power of Attorney (6 pages) and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on this 5th day of November, 2001 and are addressed to the Honorable Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Willie Jiles

Willie Jiles

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Patent Application  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Sanjay Kumar, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/972,383  
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Title: FULFILLMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR  
MANAGING ATP DATA IN A DISTRIBUTED  
SUPPLY CHAIN ENVIRONMENT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Please amend the Application as follows.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

On Page 1, line 3, please replace "60/238,307" with --60/239,397--.

On Page 1, line 12, please replace "\_\_\_/\_\_\_,\_\_\_" with --09/972,127--.

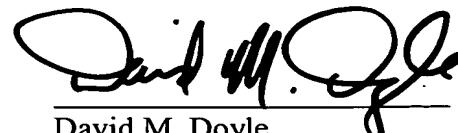
A replacement sheet for Page 1 of the Application is included in the Appendix. A Substitute Declaration and Power of Attorney is also enclosed.

**REMARKS**

Early and favorable acceptance of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.



David M. Doyle  
Reg. No. 43,596  
Attorneys for Applicants

Date: 11/2/01

Correspondence Address:

Christopher W. Kennerly, Esq.  
Baker Botts L.L.P.  
2001 Ross Avenue, 6th Floor  
Dallas, Texas 75201-2980  
(214) 953-6812

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## **APPENDIX**



FULFILLMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR MANAGING ATP DATA  
IN A DISTRIBUTED SUPPLY CHAIN ENVIRONMENT

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This Application claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/239,397, filed October 5, 2000.

*a 1* This Application is also related to:

5 U.S. Application Serial No. 08/491,167, filed June 16, 1995 by Kennedy et al. for a "System and Method for Managing Available to Promise (ATP)";

U.S. Application Serial No. 08/802,434, filed February 18, 1997 by Kennedy et al. for a "System and Method for Managing ATP";

10 U.S. Application Serial No. 09/398,171, filed September 17, 1999 by Kennedy et al. for a "System and Method for Managing ATP Data in a Distributed Supply Chain Planning Environment"; and

U.S. Application Serial No. 09/972,127, filed October 4, 2001 by Kumar et al. for a "Collaborative Fulfillment in a Distributed Supply Chain Environment."

*a 2* 15

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to the field of supply chain management, order fulfillment, and planning, and more particularly to a fulfillment management system for managing available-to-promise (ATP) data in a distributed supply chain environment.